

## MASTERS OF FOOTPRINTS.

**The Gauchos Are Wonders in Tracking Men and Beasts.**  
The Gauchos of the South American pampas are of mixed Indian and Spanish blood. Among them the tracker holds a high place, for his instinct in tracking men and beasts makes him indispensable. Some of his achievements would seem wonderful even to the American Indian and our old time guides of the plains. In a confused track of animals' feet he can tell how many of them are laden or have riders. He will detect the footprint of a human being or an animal and follow them for many miles without tiring.

The stories told of Calibar, a noted tracker, illustrates the instinct and memory of the Gaucho when hunting for his man.

Once when Calibar was absent from home his best saddle was stolen. His wife carefully covered up the footmarks and showed them to him on his return, two months after the robbery.

One afternoon, a year and a half later, he was passing along a street in the suburbs of a certain town when suddenly he stopped and examined certain footprints. Following them, he came to a house, entered it and there found his saddle, soiled and torn.

Once a criminal under sentence of death having escaped from prison, Calibar was sent in pursuit. The fugitive, knowing he would be hunted, had taken every precaution to leave no track, even to walking a long distance in a shallow stream.

Calibar followed the stream until he came to a place where he saw a few drops of water on the grass.

"He got out here," said Calibar.

Through fields and over walls he followed the fugitive until he led the soldiers into a small vineyard. Examining the approaches to the house, he told the soldiers they would find the criminal inside. They searched the premises, but could not find their man.

"He is inside," insisted the tracker. A second and more thorough search found the man, and the next morning he was shot.—Harper's Weekly.

## Saved by a Snake.

Count Zinzendorf, the founder of the Moravians, visited North America in 1742 and for a short time labored as a missionary among the Shawnee Indians. When he first went to them they received him with coldness, and a plot was formed to assassinate him. The count was sitting one evening in his wig-wam upon a bundle of dry weeds which he had gathered for his bed. While he was writing by the light of a small fire a rattlesnake, warmed into activity, crawled over one of his legs. Just then the murderous savages lifted the blanket that served for a door and looked in. They stood motionless for some minutes watching the aged man and then, gliding from the scene, fled into the forest. From that night the missionary found them friends and listeners.—New York Herald.

## Damp Salt Before Rain.

Very few persons know that when the salt gets damp it is either because it is too near the sea or because it is going to rain. It is very hard to keep the salt cellar dry at the seashore, as there is so much moisture in the air all the time, but in other places it is usually a sign of rain when the salt gets damp. Things that help themselves to the water in the air are called "deliquescent," and salt is one of them. When water is in the air in the form of gas it sometimes becomes too plentiful for the air to hold, and then we get what is called "precipitation," or rain. But long before the water vapor in the air is heavy enough to fall in rain there is enough of it to spare to make salt damp.—New York Sun.

## No Fear of Thieves.

Some years ago a London merchant sent a cargo of goods to Constantinople. After the supercargo saw the bales and boxes safely landed he inquired where they could be stored.

"Leave them here—it won't rain tonight," was the reply.

"But I dare not leave them thus exposed. Some of the goods might be stolen," said the supercargo.

The Mohammedan merchant burst into a loud laugh as he replied:

"Don't be alarmed. There isn't a Christian within fifty miles of here."—London Chronicle.

## A Reform Movement.

Mrs. Benham—When we women get to running the government we'll do a thing or two.

Benham—Such as what?

Mrs. Benham—We'll make a man take out a hunter's license before he can look for a collar button, and in his application he will have to certify that he doesn't swear.—New York Press.

## EASTER MILLINERY.

Cavalier Hat With Feathers at the Side.



NEW MODEL WITH BRIM TRIMMING

A Paris milliner this spring has brought out this cavalier hat, which has immediately leaped into favor because of its dash and grace. The brim rolls back at one side, and a handsome ostrich plume curls over the edge and touches the cheek.

## Linen to Match China.

Quite the newest conceit in decorative table linens and sets of doilies is an embroidered design in the pattern and coloring of the china with which it is to be used. The fabric is a heavy linen in canvas weave, and the embroidery is done with mercerized cottons.

The idea comes from Germany, and the work is known as Welmair embroidery. One combination consists of a china tea set of graceful shape, with a decoration of radial lines and circles at the outer end in tiny delft blue dots. Applied to round tablecloths, centerpieces and doilies, the design is embroidered in dots about the size of a pea, producing one of the most effective decorations imaginable for a comparatively small outlay. The enlarged design on the linens allows for a conventional motif in the circles, and each piece has a border of cluny lace.

For a breakfast room, for afternoon tea or for the country house in summer no more artistic or novel furnishings for the table have been introduced.

## Satin Suits Again Popular.

For special wear next summer the woman who likes dainty clothes will have a coat and skirt suit of satin in black or some dark shade. The satin used for these suits is, of course, of the most beautiful quality, with rich sheen and suppleness and substance of



BLACK SATIN SUIT OF SIMPLE LINE.

texture that prevent creasing and rumpling. The line of these satin suits is very simple, but often there are quite elaborate bridle trimmings.

The model illustrated is of the darkest navy blue satin, with braiding in black. The Eton shaped jacket, with a fitted plastron below, is one of the new style notes for spring.

## Teaching Mothercraft.

Miss Eleanor L. Kelley of New York, speaking in favor of the school for mothercraft that has been suggested in connection with the lecture of Dr. G. Stanley Hall on the subject, said that "something is the matter with the college requirements for girls now, and there is also something radically wrong with these courses after the girls enter college. Ninety-five per cent of the women in the world marry and have children or are associated with children in some professional way. Then why should not a part of the education be devoted to such studies as have to do with the care and rearing of children? Our college curriculum," she said, "should include courses in biology, hygiene, psychology, the home beautiful, the story telling side of literature, music and a few other studies that make women more like women than they are now."

## OUR FIRST NAVAL FLAG.

It Bore a Pine Tree and the Motto, "An Appeal to Heaven."

The United States navy as it appears today was but dimly foreshadowed in the floating batteries which in September, 1775, were launched on the Charles river, Massachusetts, and in October opened fire upon Boston. They were two in number, says the Bluejacket, scow shaped and were made of strong timber, pierced near the water line for oars and along the sides, higher up, for musketry and light.

A heavy gun was placed at each end and upon the top were four swivels, their ensign being the pine tree flag, which appears to have been the favorite flag in the New England colonies. Colonel Reed writing to Colonels Glover and Moylan, Oct. 20, 1775, and speaking of the six schooners first commissioned by General Washington says:

"Please fix upon some particular color for a flag and a signal by which our vessels may know each other. What do you think of a flag with a white ground and a tree in the middle, the motto, 'An Appeal to Heaven?'" This is the flag of our floating batteries.

Colonels Glover and Moylan replied the next day, saying that Broughton and Selman had sailed that morning, having nothing but their old colors (probably the old English union ensign), and they had appointed as the signal by which they could be known to their friends the ensign at the maintop.

The suggestion of Colonel Reed seems, however, to have been adopted, for the Franklin, sailing in January, 1776, carried the pine tree flag and Commander Samuel Tucker wrote to John Holmes, March 6, 1818:

"The first cruise I made was in January, 1776, in the schooner Franklin, of seventy tons, equipped by order of General Washington, and I had to purchase the small arms to encounter the enemy with money from my own pocket or go without, and my wife made the banner I fought under, the field of which was white and the union green, made therein in the figure of a pine tree, made of cloth of her own purchasing at her own expense."

The London Chronicle in January, 1776, describing the flag of a captured privateer, says: "There is in the admiralty office the flag of a provincial privateer. The field is white bunting. On the middle is a green pine tree and upon the opposite side is the motto, 'An Appeal to Heaven.'"

April, 1776, the Massachusetts council passed a series of resolutions for the regulation of the sea service, among which was the following:

Resolved, That the uniform of the officers be green and white and that they furnish themselves accordingly, and that the colors be a white flag with a green pine tree and the inscription be "An appeal to heaven."

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Not Fast Horses.

"My dear old father came to visit me last week," says a friend whose name we omit. "He's one great old scoundrel, my dad, but of course he's a villain, and he can't see this easy-come-easy-go method of getting rid of money. He had to be there with a little advice. Says he:

"Son, I hear you've been losing a lot of money on fast horses."

"Father, I came back, 'that just shows how news will get twisted by the time it arrives at the old town.' It is true that I have risked some coin at the track, but it wasn't on fast horses. What lost me my money was quite the opposite, dad—quite the opposite."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Those Youthful Prodigies.

"Will wonders never cease?" said Jones to his wife. "Here is the account of a six-year-old boy who can work the most difficult problems in algebra."

"Remarkable!" admitted Mrs. Jones, "but I know of a four-year-old girl who knows Greek. Where does your little wonder live?"

"In Boston. Where does your linguistic marvel reside?"

Mrs. Jones gazed out of the window with a faraway look in her eye as she answered, "In Greece."—National Food Magazine.

That's the government's headquarters, Jimmy."

A long puzzled silence, then:

"Father, where are its headquarters?"—Exchange.

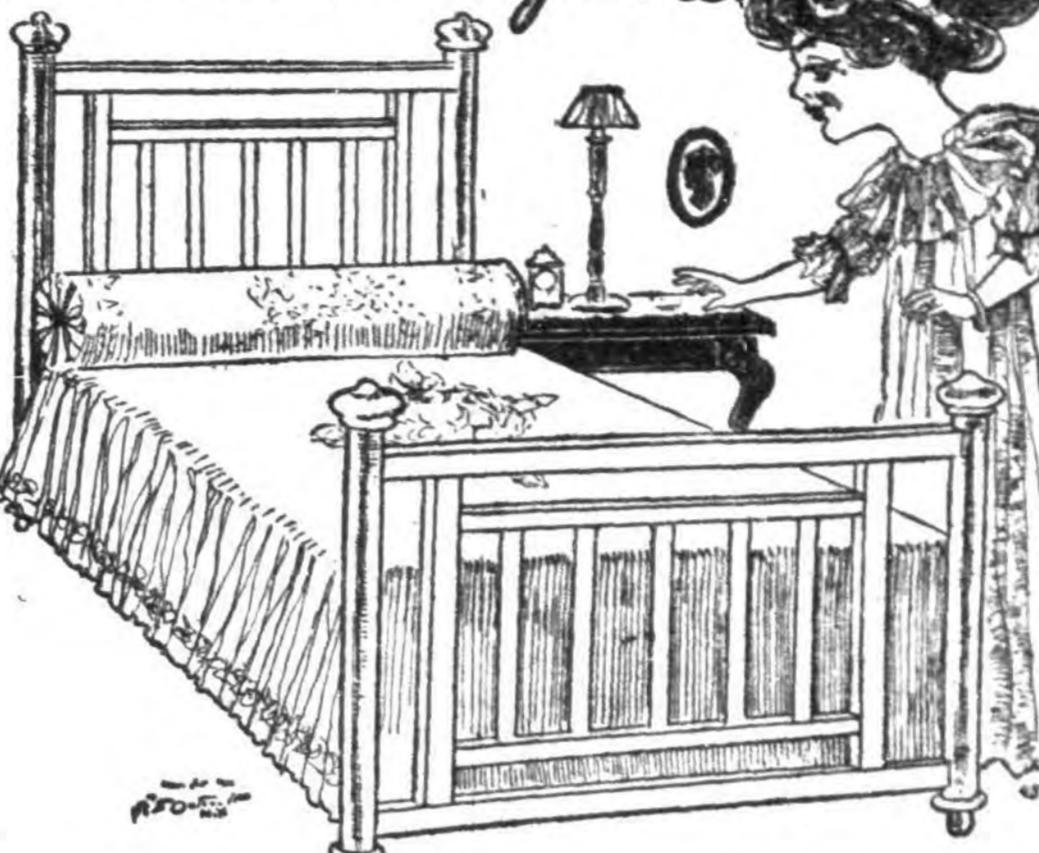
Something That Was Worse.

A friend once wrote Mark Twain a letter saying that he was in very bad health and concluding, "Is there anything worse than having toothache and earache at the same time?" Twain wrote back, "Yes; rheumatism and St. Vitus' dance."

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